

Summer 2008

**NILA**

(Nebraska International Languages Association)

## Visions N' Views

**NILA Fall Conference 2008 (October 10–11)**

**Building Bridges Through International Education**

The 2008 NILA Conference will be held at the beautiful campus of Doane College in Crete with an excellent variety of topics to be presented. Some of the upcoming presentations include: Photo Storytelling; Engaging Students through Music; Language Fair; Oral Proficiency; Grammar Instruction; Foreign Language Convention; Service Learning; Top Ten Teaching Strategies; Don't Entertain . . . Engage Your Students; Using Technology and Culture. There will be a wide range of presenters from all over the state. Some are first-time presenters and others have presented at NILA and many other conferences in the past. There is sure to be something for everyone!!!!

Be sure to register soon to take advantage of early-bird registration. Fall conference chair, Wendy Brennan and co-chair, Lynn Diurba along with exhibitor chair, Steve Brock and site chair, Peter Reinkordt, have prepared a wonderful conference. Language immersions are scheduled on Friday with a full day conference on Saturday. Join us for the immersions, great sessions, networking opportunities, awards and prizes, exhibits and ideas that you can use when returning to classes on Monday. Visit <http://www.nde.state.ne.us/FORLG/> to download the registration form.

### What do I need to know if I am attending for the first time?

1. Register early.
2. Read through the conference sessions and plan your day.
3. Bring a colleague to share the experience.
4. Fill out the evaluation form.
5. Jot down ideas that you would like to implement in your classroom.
6. Bring business cards or contact information to share with new colleagues..

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### Upcoming Events

- NILA Fall Conference (October 10 —11, 2008)
- ACTFL Conference (November 21-23, 2008) Orlando (<http://www.actfl.org>)
- Central States Conference (March 19-21, 2009) Chicago (<http://www.csctfl.org/>)

## NILA (Nebraska International Language Association)

When I first started teaching, the principal told me "Here is your room and the books are on the shelf." New and experienced teachers shouldn't be left to sink or swim. There are plenty of wonderful mentors out there. For many years I have learned a lot through the many professional educators that have been involved with the Nebraska International Languages Association (NILA). It is a professional organization with its purpose to promote the teaching of international languages and prepare students to be world citizens. I look forward every October to the NILA Fall Conference and immersion activities when I am able to network with other teachers and gain valuable teaching ideas, classroom activities, advice and learn more about the best professional practices. I invite anyone interested in the teaching or study of world languages and English as a Second Language to become a member. It is a support system as well as a network to resources. Come join us for the NILA Fall Conference at Doane College in Crete on October 10 & 11.



—Tricia Suchsland

NILA President

## Nebraska Department of Education

### The Changing Focus of World Language Learning in Nebraska



"One of the most important factors influencing the development of language proficiency is the amount of time spent in working with the language. When language learning begins earlier, it can go on longer and provide more practice and experience, leading ultimately to greater fluency and effectiveness." (Curtain and Dahlberg, 2004) The research has long shown the benefits of children experiencing early language learning, but the focus for the most part has remained on learning languages at the secondary level. However, there is increasing awareness and a growing interest in world language learning in the elementary classroom. Not only in Nebraska, but across the United States, the focus of world language learning is shifting from secondary to elementary. Even in discussions with the Nebraska State School Board, comments such as "...just a few years ago we only talked about world languages in regard to the secondary school and now our conversations include elementary world language programs..." are familiar.

The Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) and University of Nebraska (UNL) FLAP (Foreign Language Assistant Program) Grant has helped fund fifteen elementary schools to implement world language programs. There are fourteen new FLES (Foreign Language in the Elementary School) Programs that offer at least 20-30 or more minutes of language learning per week and one dual language program. As a result of these programs, NDE has been able to develop and provide online model lessons based on children's literature for all teachers, complete with all needed resources and videos. Another goal for the FLAP Grant is the LinguaFolio research. Dr. Ali Moeller at UNL is conducting a 5-year longitudinal study to determine what students know and are able to do after 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 years of language study. The online LinguaFolio professional development video allows teachers to experience the "Characteristics of the Successful Learner" workshop on demand from the comfort of their own home or office. Go to [www.nde.state.ne.us/FORLG](http://www.nde.state.ne.us/FORLG) and click on "LinguaFolio Nebraska."

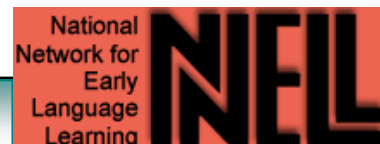
## Nebraska Department of Education (con't)

The world in which Nebraska students of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century are being educated includes growing interaction and interdependence among people, states and nations on multiple levels—personal, economic, scientific, and political. It is essential that Nebraska's students be provided high quality learning opportunities and experiences to better equip them for successful participation in a global and interdependent world. Another initiative NDE has been working on is encouraging more of a focus on International Education in all subject areas. The NDE world languages and social studies teams have partnered with The Malaika Foundation to sponsor an annual symposium in each of the last three years. This partnership yielded a Longview Foundation Grant, which has supported a Nebraska International Education Survey, the Nebraska International Education Summit, and the formation of the Nebraska Council on International Education. Check out the International Education Resources at [www.nde.state.ne.us/FORLG/InternationalEdLinks.htm](http://www.nde.state.ne.us/FORLG/InternationalEdLinks.htm).

—Vickie Scow, Director of World Languages

No bubble is so iridescent or floats longer than that blown by the successful teacher.

--William Osler, Canadian Physician



## NE-NELL (Nebraska Network for Early Language)

The National Network for Early Language Learning, a professional organization for World Language teachers PreK-8<sup>th</sup> grade, had its annual Summer Institute at Iowa State in July. This year, the keynote speaker was Helena Curtain, author of Languages and Children, Making the Match. Helena's presentation was entitled "Empowering Teacher Leaders through Implementation of Content-Based Practices. Dr. Scott Hamilton, a clinical psychologist and Director of the Russel & Mary Williams Learning Project at Park Tudor School, gave a workshop on what brain research can tell us about language learning. Ashley Lenker, Program Manager for JNCL, gave updates on current legislation impacting world languages. In addition to the outstanding workshops, it was a tremendous opportunity to network and discuss successes and concerns we face in our profession.

This was the first year that NELL opened registration to the institute to all members. In the past, the Summer Institute was for State and Regional Reps. only. If you would be interested in joining NELL, or would like more information on the Summer Institutes, please visit [www.nell.org](http://www.nell.org) or contact Kathy deBoer, the Nebraska State Rep., [kcdeboer@mpsomaha.org](mailto:kcdeboer@mpsomaha.org).

—Kathy deBoer, Nebraska State Rep for NELL

- Elementary foreign language builds thinking skills, math ability, and increases overall scores on standardized tests. It enhances problem solving as well as cognitive development
- To compete in the 21<sup>st</sup> century global economy, American schools should begin foreign language in the younger grades like other industrialized nations worldwide.
- Start early, when children's brains are naturally 'wired' to learn language and speak with native proficiency. <http://www.flageorgia.org/advocacy.htm>

## Central States Conference

The 2009 Central States Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (CSCTFL) will take place on 19-21 March at the Hyatt Regency in Chicago on Wacker Drive.

The conference promises to be an exciting one. The theme of conference is "Diversity by Design." The extension workshop will focus on the topic of differentiation in the classroom. Over twenty workshops, both before and during the conference, are planned. Carolyn Gascoigne of the University of Nebraska--Omaha will edit the CSC Report.

In addition to the conference, Chicago offers much within walking distance of the conference hotel: fabulous shopping along the Magnificent Mile, the famous Chicago Art Institute, Shedd Aquarium, and Field Museum, to name but a few attractions. Early registration for the conference is only \$95 through 12 January. I would encourage those planning on attending, however, to join the CSCTFL Advisory Council (AC) for the same price. AC membership also includes voting for the CSCTFL board and a complimentary reception at the conference. The rate for double occupancy is \$169 a night; for quaduple occupancy \$189.

CSCTFL was last in Chicago at this hotel in 2006. Vickie Scow and Ali Moeller of Nebraska were the program chairs for that conference. The 2006 conference also was the organization's largest in the last ten years, so early registration is recommended.



For more about CSCTFL 2009, please visit: [www.csctfl.org](http://www.csctfl.org)

—Steve Brock  
CSCTFL Chair of the Board

## CSC Corner: Scholarship and Grant Opportunities

Does a two to four-week teacher-immersion experience for summer, 2009, appeal to you? For Spanish teachers two scholarships are available in Mexico and one in Spain.

For German teachers the Goethe Institut offers immersion. Scholarship recipients are financially responsible only for their flight to Mexico, Spain, or Germany. For all language teachers, the Concordia Language Villages Teacher Seminar offers a \$600 scholarship.

For all five CSC scholarships, the candidate agrees to present a CSC session in 2010, and the candidate needs to teach at least a 50% foreign language assignment in the Central States region. Finally the scholarship applicant needs to have attended a CSC Conference within the past five years. You qualify if you attended Dearborn in 2008, Kansas City in 2007, Chicago in 2006, Columbus in 2005, Dearborn in 2004, or Minneapolis in 2003. Now is the chance to capitalize on that experience!

Scholarship applications are due December 15, 2008. Check all information and download the scholarship application form at <http://www.csctfl.org/>

Do you have an innovative classroom project idea? Grants are available through our regional CSC professional organization. Preference is always given to quality proposals that prove an expandable impact. To qualify, one must be a member of CSC Advisory Council. The price for yearly membership is the same as the price for conference registration. Grant applications are due January 15, 2009. Again check the CSC web site for information and grant application form at <http://www.csctfl.org/>

These scholarship and grant opportunities often are not awarded because people do not apply. Please think of your personal growth and professional needs for 2009. Money and immersion scholarships through CSC are a definite possibility. Please consider applying. Mark your calendars and request funding for CSC Conference in Chicago, March 19 ~ 21, 2009.

—Carrol J. Lund, Outreach Chair for Central States Conference

## **NAATF (Nebraska American Association of Teachers of French)**



National French Week 2007 was a wonderful success, with record attendance at all of our events. All told, there were over three hundred community members, including over 100 young children, who attended activities ranging from French storytelling at the Bookworm to a Sing-along program at the Children's Museum in Omaha.

NAATF has also been working closely with Film Streams, Omaha's new non-profit art house movie theater, to bring a variety of classic French films and educational lectures to our state's students throughout the academic year. For example, on May 13th we offered a program during the academic day which included a showing of François Truffaut's 400 BLOWS, a lecture about French "New Wave" cinema, Lindsay Trapnell and a French-inspired lunch. One hundred and forty students participated in this wonderful program, which was free to teachers and their students.

In recent weeks, the leadership has been working with Film Streams, in hopes of putting together a French film festival for this year's National French Week, November 5 - 11. The film festival would be one of several new activities that NAATF is hoping to cosponsor for the 2008 NFM. Our hope is to create an exciting citywide program with enough activities that francophiles outside of the metro area will consider spending a French-inspired weekend getaway in Omaha. To that end, we will work to get free press coverage in some of the state's larger local papers to get the word out.

The members attending the NAATF meeting at the NILA Conference in October 2007 voted to organize a "student exchange" program for French language students outside of the Omaha metro area. This, too, will be held during National French Week. The idea is to have students and their teachers from around the state spend the weekend in Omaha, where they will stay with French language students and their families. Furthermore, they will attend several of the NFM activities, eat at a couple of French restaurants and attend a special student-only program at Westside High School on that Saturday. This program will draw from the Auberge's (statewide lock-in's) most popular activities.

**National French Week Exchange Schedule:** In observance of National French week this November, Omaha-area French students would host French students from other parts of Nebraska for a weekend of French-themed activities, ranging from cultural visits to competitive events. Exact dates to be announced in August.

### **Proposed Schedule**

#### **Friday**

1PM Restaurant-Le Voltaire or Dario's Brasserie

3:15PM Film Streams Art Cinema "The Two of Us" by Louis Malle. Set during the Holocaust, this movie is a charming & lovely story about the importance of learning tolerance.

6PM WHS Create Team Flags/Dinner/Music Video Planning Time and Taping

#### **Saturday**

8AM Breakfast w/ Families

9:30AM Joslyn and Tour of Impressionist Gallery

NOON WHS/Lunch/Abbreviated Auberge Competition Events w/ 6-7 Activities

5PM Closing Ceremonies

*—Cris Fishback*  
President — NAATF

## NATG—(Nebraska Association of Teachers of German)



Let's Get Together!

Saturday, September 20, 11:00AM to 2:00PM

2701 N. 75th Street, Omaha, NE 68134

Please join the Nebraska Association of Teachers of German for an end-of-summer get-together! We will meet at President Lindsey Schulz's house to meet the several new German teachers Nebraska has welcomed in the last few years, as well as re-connect with colleagues, and share ideas.

Have you had particular success with something you've tried in the classroom? Feel free to bring copies to share with your colleagues.

You will also get the chance to find out more about our monthly Stammtisch, this fall's NILA (Nebraska International Languages Association) conference, and the spring Student German Convention.

Lunch will be served! Feel free to bring a beverage to share, if you would like.

P.S. - If you know of a new German teacher who is not included on this invitation, would you please forward it to him/her? Likewise, if you know of a member whose e-mail address has changed, please pass this on. We want to include everyone! Please check out the NATG website for further information.

<http://members.cox.net/aatgnebraska/>

—Lindsey Schultz

President—NAATG

## NATSP—(Nebraska Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese)



¡Saludos a todos!

I find myself writing to you as a new school year is upon us; I hope you enjoyed your summer and are eager for the challenges and rewards the next nine months will bring. Personally, I look forward, albeit cautiously, to the new technologies I'll be using in my classroom to address student needs.

Since assuming a leadership role in the Nebraska Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese last fall I have become more aware of the talented and resourceful people that make up our organization. The diversity of activities coordinated by and with Nebraska's language teachers provide our students with rich learning experiences. Understanding that our state has a diverse population of innovative teachers of Spanish, I encourage each of us to utilize the opportunities given to share with and receive from our colleagues one or more ideas to use in our classrooms. A great place to start might be at one of this fall's NDE World Language Workshops, or at the NATSP Immersion and NILA conference on October 10 and 11. Information for both of these activities and others can be found at <http://www.nde.state.ne.us/forlg/>.

Best wishes in your new year, and if NATSP can assist you, please drop us a line.

—Jim Chvala

President – NATSP

[jchvala@esu7.org](mailto:jchvala@esu7.org)



## JNCL (Joint National Committee for Languages)



- More information on current federal legislation can be found at: <http://thomas.loc.gov/>.
- More information on advocacy and JNCL can be found at their website: <http://www.languagepolicy.org/>



The JNCL-NCLIS Delegate Assembly met in May, 2008 in Washington D.C. to learn about and have an impact on national policies regarding world language education. The Legislative Day consisted of briefings on Capitol Hill by JNCL staff and congressional staffers in the morning. Delegates spent the afternoon meeting with members of Congress and their staff to discuss language and international education policy. On Delegate Assembly Day speakers shared current information about various federal language programs and initiatives as well as the latest news from the language community. Attending the 2008 conference were Steve Brock, OPS, representing the Central States Conference and Marlene Knobbe, West Point Guardian Angels, representing NILA. The main legislative bill of interest, H.R. 5179, would establish an Assistant Secretary for International and Foreign Language Education in the Department of Education. Talking points and a sample letter regarding this bill can be found at the website under legislation.

On July 31, 2008, Congress passed their Higher Education Opportunity Act, which includes a Deputy Assistant Secretary for International and Foreign Language Education. Check out the website, stay informed and participate in educating your legislators.

## ACTFL (American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages)

### ACTFL Annual Convention

World language professionals from all levels, all assignments and all languages can come together to learn at the 2008 ACTFL Annual Convention and World Languages Expo. The Convention, with the theme "Opening Minds to the World Through Languages," will take place November 21-23, 2008 at the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort in Orlando, Florida. Keynote speaker Neil Howe, author, historian and expert on generations, will share his perspectives on "Teaching Languages to Different Generations in the Globalizing World." Re-energize your mind, renew friendships or make new ones, and return home with a multitude of good ideas from the outstanding program and exhibition at ACTFL 2008. If you have never attended an ACTFL Annual Convention and World Languages Expo you have the opportunity to apply for a scholarship to provide some assistance with the expenses associated with attending the convention. Find out more about ACTFL 2008 at [www.actfl.org](http://www.actfl.org).

—Vickie Scow, CSC Representative to ACTFL



## *Foreign Language and ELL Teachers!*



Welcome back to a new school year!

The **ESU #2 Language Teachers Academic Alliance** will continue again this year. We hope that you will enjoy the topics and plan to join us. Please take some time to post this on your bulletin board or add these events to your calendar. **There will only be a reminder sent once a semester.**

### **Make a note to . . .**

Please remember mark your calendar for our charlas and sharing sessions! Come and listen to ideas and/or bring your own ideas to share! Or just come to practice your language skills.



Meet with the **ESU #2 Foreign Language Teachers and ELL** teachers for our monthly sharing session at Logan View High School, Spanish Room; Mod 2. Please bring your own drink, snacks will be provided!

The schedule for topics for the 2008-2009 school year is as follows:



**September 3, 2008 – Keeping things under control!** Bring any ideas that help you and your students stay organized or any ideas for classroom management!



**October 3, 2008 - Let's keep them talking!** Bring your ideas for conversation in the target language!



**October 10-11, 2008 – NATSP Immersion and Nebraska International Languages Convention**  
(See attached sheet for registration form.)  
Doane College, Crete, Nebraska <http://www.nde.state.ne.us/FORLG/>  
Click on NILA to find out more about the conference!



**November 7, 2008– Let's play!** Bring any ideas, activities, games, or strategies to help your students learn the target language.

**December and January-** Happy Holidays! No scheduled meeting these months! See you in 2009!

**Don't forget** to register for **Central States Conference in Chicago, Illinois, March 19-21, 2009.** Go online at <http://www.csctfl.org/2009conference.html>



**February 4, 2009\* - Read me a story!** Bring any projects, strategies, or ideas to help use literature in the classroom.



**March 4, 2009\* - Connect me to the culture!** Bring any websites or ideas to use culture in the target language.

**Remember:** All meetings this school year will be held at Logan View Public Schools (Portable next to the parking lot), and we will start at approximately 4:15 p.m. and end at about 5:30 p.m. on the first Wednesday of each month noted. **Come early or late and stay as long as you like! Bring your successes and problems to discuss! We hope to see you there!**

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\* In the event of inclement weather, we will cancel and not reschedule.



## NILA (Membership Application)



### NILA Membership Application

#### Nebraska International Languages Association

(Please check preferred address block)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ School: \_\_\_\_\_ School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Workplace: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Years Teaching: \_\_\_\_\_

What language(s) do you teach?

- |                                  |                                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chinese | <input type="checkbox"/> Japanese |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ESL     | <input type="checkbox"/> Latin    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> French  | <input type="checkbox"/> Russian  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> German  | <input type="checkbox"/> Spanish  |

What level(s) do you teach?

- |  |
|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elementary                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Junior High / Middle School |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High School                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> College / University        |

What category describes your membership?

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular members  | \$25.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emeritus members | \$12.50 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student members  | \$ 7.50 |

[Membership valid from June 1 through May 31 of each calendar year]

**MAIL TO: Karen Robinson • NILA Treasurer • 16732 Patrick Avenue • Omaha, NE 68116**

**Fall Immersion (Spanish)****NATSP 2008 Fall Spanish Immersion**

(Immersion Leaders—Rita Blanco, Mandy Freitag, Stephanie Iwan-Flamme, Linda Mieras)

**El Mundo En Tus Manos**

Puedes tener el mundo en tus manos cuando asistes a la inmersión 2008.

Permite a tus guías (Linda Mieras, Rita Blanco, Mandy Freitag, y Stephanie Iwan Flamme) llevarte al mundo del español, el 10 de octubre, 2008 en la Universidad de Doane en Crete, Nebraska (Estaremos en Hansen Hall en el Conference Room, <http://www.doane.edu/Maps-Directions/>)

**12.30-1.00 Registro**

**1.00 -6.00 Regatón Como Tito El Bambino**

**Maletas de Viajes**

**Pulseras Guatemaltecas**

**Un Mundo Pequeño**

**En la Cocina Española**

**Juan Chico Va al Perú**

**El Gordo**

**Baile**

**6.00 - ¿? Cena Salvadoreña y Recuerdos**

**(Vamos a comer pupusas. ¡Qué rica!)**

**Cine Puertorriqueña o**

**Discoteca de Cuba (\$5.00 no está incluido.)**



**Ten prisa y manda tu \$25\* para registrar para**

**El Mundo En Tus Manos.**

**(\*Your registration includes activities, handouts, entertainment, DVD, meals, and snacks.**

**Your fun is free!)**

Name\_\_\_\_\_

School\_\_\_\_\_

E-mail\_\_\_\_\_

Phone\_\_\_\_\_

☐ Vegetarian Meal or ☐ Meal with Meat

Send your \$25 registration (Make checks payable to NATSP.) to S. Iwan Flamme, 1771 Hwy. 79, North Bend, NE 68649 before **October 1, 2008.**

## Immersion (German)

**NATG German Immersion Workshop - NILA Conference Fall 2008**

**Friday, October 10, 2008 (Location and time to be announced)**

**Landeskunde multimedial**

Presenters will focus on relevant aspects of German Landeskunde such as soccer, music, contemporary history etc. as starting points to develop students' language and culture skills. Suggested activities will be based on authentic texts. Different media including film, web sites and songs will be utilized.

Katharina Barbe (Northern Illinois University) will demonstrate how to use materials of the Lebendiges Virtuelles Museum Online. Volker Langeheine (Millard North High School) will focus on a teaching unit using a film on German soccer. National AATG President John Stark (Illinois Math and Science Academy) will show how songs can be utilized for interactive communication.

**Watch Your Email and Check the Website for Further Information!**

<http://members.cox.net/aatgnebraska/>



## Immersion (French)

NAATF is meeting at 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on the Doane campus (locale to be announced) for a Séjour Sans Souci, which will include a light dinner, business meeting, a viewing of the Academy Award Winner for Best Short Subject "Le Mozart des Pickpockets" and other special programming.



## Wonderful Websites

- Jan Coone, ESU #16, submitted the following site that she and language teachers have been using to post web sites: <http://del.icio.us/WLTeachers>. The following categories can be searched: countries, music and songs, art, activities, culture, elementary, food, holidays, resources, stories, technology, TPRS, video and vocabulary along with others.
- Power Points can be downloaded from the following site: <http://tpduggan.tripod.com/powerp.html>. The author has given permission to teachers to use them for free. The presentations are in Spanish but all of the templates for the games such as Jeopardy and Millionaire could be used for any language.
- Scholastic has a website that is designed for first-year teachers, <http://teacher.scholastic.com/newteacher/>. It features how-to strategies, hands-on tips, creative ideas, and teacher-to-teacher advice on succeeding during your first year in the classroom. Great for any teacher!
- Get Olympic information and updates: French: <http://fr.beijing2008.cn>; Spanish: <http://sp.beijing2008.cn>; English: <http://en.beijing2008.cn>; German: <http://www.dosb.de/de>



## Fall Workshops

# World Language

## Fall Workshops 2008



**A TOOLBOX OF  
ACTIVITIES AND STRATEGIES  
TO INCREASE LANGUAGE LEARNING**

Do you need ideas to increase language learning and motivate students in the classroom?  
This workshop will provide you with a toolbox of activities and strategies to do just that.

What do bullseye, bag, karate, rap, origami, and eggs have in common?

**JOIN US TO FIND OUT!**



**WHO:** Any Teacher Involved in World Language Education

**WHAT:** Fall World Language Workshop

**WHEN & WHERE:**

NE Community College	Norfolk	September 16
ESU #3	Omaha	September 17
UNK Ockinga Center	Kearney	September 19
ESU #13	Scottsbluff	September 25
ESU #16	Ogallala	October 14

**WHY:** To Obtain Activities and Strategies for Increasing Language Learning  
and Student Motivation

**NO CHARGE TO PARTICIPATE, BUT PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE AT  
[www.nde.state.ne.us/forlg](http://www.nde.state.ne.us/forlg)**

**All workshops are from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. local time. Lunch will be on your own.**

## Fall Workshops

# International Education Fall Workshops



## Going Global: Bringing the World to Your Classroom

The world in which Nebraska students of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century are being educated includes growing interaction and interdependence among people, states, and nations on multiple levels — personal, economic, scientific, and political. It is essential that our students be provided high quality learning opportunities and experiences to better equip them for successful participation in a global and interdependent world.

*How can you provide these experiences for your students?*

**JOIN US AND RECEIVE A TOOLKIT OF STRATEGIES AND ACTIVITIES THAT YOU CAN  
USE TO INTEGRATE INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION INTO YOUR CLASSROOM!**



**WHO:** Any Teacher Involved in Any Subject Area

**WHAT:** International Education Fall Workshops

**WHEN & WHERE:**

Learning Center	Norfolk	October 1
ESU #5	Beatrice	October 8
ESU #13	Scottsbluff	October 14
ESU #16	North Platte	October 15

**WHY:** To Integrate Global Awareness in the Classroom

**NOTE:** Agenda available August 28<sup>th</sup> at [www.nde.state.ne.us/forlg/IE\\_Main.htm](http://www.nde.state.ne.us/forlg/IE_Main.htm)

**NO CHARGE TO PARTICIPATE, BUT PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE AT  
[www.nde.state.ne.us/forlg/IE\\_Main.htm](http://www.nde.state.ne.us/forlg/IE_Main.htm)**

**All workshops are from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. local time. Lunch will be on your own.**



## Ticket to Travel

The Lincoln Public Schools KNOW-YOUR-NEIGHBOR STUDY TOURS (KYNST) program provides students who follow a course of world language study the opportunity to travel to France, Germany or Spain. These study abroad experiences are organized and promoted through the World Language Office during the school year in conjunction with Intercultural Student Experiences (a non-profit educational organization). The ten-day trips are scheduled during spring break and include a six-day family stay. ISE matches students to host families and assists with the itinerary to create authentic, beyond-the-classroom immersion experiences for American world language students and teachers.

-Jami Swanson—Lincoln Public Schools



Pictures from the 2004 trip to Ourense, Galicia, Spain

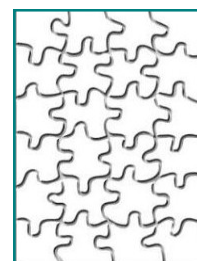


The city of Ourense has a great deal of history and has its roots firmly seated in the Celtic period.

## Teaching Treasures and Tips (Ideas for the First Days of School)

In the first few days of school it is very important to get to know one's students, so in addition to taking several days to establish and practice classroom discipline and routines, ask students to tell about themselves. A handy questionnaire of likes, dislikes, and favorites is a quick way to get information to use all year that will personalize one's class. This year I am going to get big blank puzzle pieces from Oriental Trading Company and have students each decorate a piece with this kind of information. Then the pieces will be put together and displayed on the wall. This will not only give me a personalized bulletin board, but I can emphasize the importance of working together (completed puzzle) to achieve more learning.

Submitted by Pat McGill, Waverly Junior-Senior High School (Email: [pmcgill@esu6.org](mailto:pmcgill@esu6.org))



## Teaching Treasures and Tips (con't)

### It's the Little Things

In January it's the little things that make a teacher crazy. Hopefully by starting out the year on the right foot, teachers new and old can avoid the craziness of teaching and have a smooth year!

Here's a checklist of things to help you plan your year and get off to a smooth start and continue that way through January and end up happy in May.

**1. Plan! Plan! Plan!** Decide what you want the students to do that first day. Set the tone for the year and set your expectations. As part of your Day 1 plan, tell your students why you wanted to be a teacher and study a language. Give them an insight to your passion.

**2. Organize!** Have a planner for yourself and use it. Include a section in the back for requisitions and jot them down as you are going through the year. Also include a page for "Things I Want to Change." When ordering and planning comes around you will be good to go. Also, add new items to your inventory in the fall when you unpack them. It's easier then and makes May a lot less stressful.

Keep a separate planner for student appointments. Have the students write their names in the planner. It makes it more meaningful for them, and their commitment level to keeping their appointment improves. You may want to have a consequence for students who don't keep their appointments as well. Kind of like the dentist . . . if you don't show, you still have to pay.

Have a binder for each unit. Keep your originals in the binder and it's all in one place. Also when preparing those assignments, practice sheets, etc., put a piece of clip art on the title page. It's easier to spot a picture in the mountains of paper on your desk then to read everything. It's also easier to reference the picture to the students as well.

Have students number their papers to correspond to the number in your grade book or spreadsheet grading program. It's easier for you to locate where to put their grades or access their information.

**3. Teach procedures!** Decide how you want the students to enter the room, hand in their papers, sharpen their pencils, throw away waste paper, come to attention, etc. Then actually teach them to do it with guided practice. Be sure to stop them where they are and reteach them how to do these procedures when they forget.

**4. Make big things little!** Break up big jobs into smaller tasks. If you have 100 projects to grade, decide how much time (days) you want to spend. Divide the days into the number of projects and then correct that many each day. Keep a tally so that you can see the progress. Tell yourself, "I can't go home until I have five projects corrected!" All of a sudden you are done, and you are not fretting over it.

**5. Rules and Regulations!** When going over your rules and regulations, have them organized in a T-graph. Have your rules and regulations on the left side and on the right side have the students write what they need to do. Students are then writing as you are going over what they should do in class rather than just sitting. Have them share and compare after every three to five rules. Students are then more actively involved in the listening which is important as they have to listen to a lot of rules and regulations during the first days of school.

**6. Keep your sanity!** Find someone with whom to share. Look for someone to share your experience. When things go smoothly, celebrate! When things are tough, collaborate!

Arrive a little early and stay a little late so you don't have to take work home. If you do need to work at home, choose what you love; creating a game, researching culture, etc.

Leave the papers to check in your classroom. They can never get lost there because they never leave!

**7. Enjoy your students and enjoy your profession!** Language teachers have the best teaching assignment. We get to do a variety of things. We get to see our students truly grow in their skills by leaps and bounds. And, we have more fun than anyone else in the school! Enjoy the 2008-2009 school year!

Helpful resources: **Tools for Teaching** by Fred Jones

**The First Days of School** by Harry Wong

Submitted by Stephanie Iwan-Flamme, Logan View High School (Email: [siwan@esu2.org](mailto:siwan@esu2.org))



## Teaching Treasures and Tips (con't)



In junior high language classes this year, we will “travel” to different Spanish-speaking countries each month. Each student will receive a “passport” where the student will fill in their name, nationality, date and place of birth as well as a photo of themselves (downloaded from our school-based web program). Teachers could also take a digital camera photo or have the student bring or draw a picture of themselves. As the student enters the room on the first day of each month, music from the country is playing and postcards, realia, and/or photos are displayed. Based on the clues, visuals and music, the students determine the country, locate it on the map and write the name of the country in their passport. (The teacher could also use a stamp of the country, flag, etc.) The country theme will then be used to generate conversation in the target language throughout the year.

Submitted by Marlene Knobbe, Guardian Angels Elementary, West Point (Email: [mknobbe@gacatholicschool.org](mailto:mknobbe@gacatholicschool.org))

### Make Your List

1. Make a list of all the actions that eat away from your instructional time. Include on your list things like exchanging and collecting papers, sharpening pencils, bathroom passes, missed classroom work, tardiness, and dismissal.
2. How do you want your students to carry out those actions so they take minimum time with little distractions?
3. Devise a plan for teaching the procedures you want the students to do.
4. And then, DO IT! Teach the plan so that your students know your expectations for how the class is organized for their success.



(<http://teachers.net/wong/AUG07/>)-

On the first day, students write three unique facts about themselves, such as a pet's name, favorite sport, talent, and so on. Collect the papers and read a description aloud to the class. Include the teacher's information. The students then guess who it is. Continue until all the descriptions have been read.

This idea originally appeared in *Instructor*, published by Scholastic

Before class, teachers prepare a timeline of their life. Teachers show their example, explain the idea, give the student paper, and have them prepare one. Tell students to list at least five or six events and not to put their names on the timelines. Collect them, when the students finish, number them, and tape the time lines up around the room. Students then need to walk around the room and interview each other to determine which timeline belongs to which classmate. Students can ask either open ended information questions (When were you born?) or yes/no questions (Did you get your first kiss in 1995?), but can not ask the interviewee's number. After students have determined which timeline belongs to which student, or after a set time, remove the timelines from the walls and ask students who is who.

(The Internet TESL Journal, Vol. V, No. 7, July 1999)

*"As to the education of the heart ... It can only be imparted through the loving touch of the teacher."*  
- Cesar Chavez

## **Program Previews—Elementary (Lexington Dual Language Program)**

Immigrants from Mexico, South America and Africa now call Lexington their home. Nearly 75 percent of students attending the community's public schools are considered minorities and the locals and immigrants are starting to speak the same language.

"We have students that come from homes that are Spanish dominant. We have students that come from homes that are English dominant, and they're intermingled," said Andrew Welch, Bryan Elementary principal.

Lexington's dual language program is in its third year and you can already hear the results.

"It's just such a huge advantage to become not only bi-lingual but bi-literate, so they'll read, write and speak in both languages, but it will just open a lot of doors for them in their future," said Suzanne Wendorff, second grade dual language teacher.

Kindergarten through second grade students at Bryan Elementary currently learn half their subjects in English and half in Spanish, switching languages after lunch each day. It's a program dual language teacher Maria Avalos only wishes she had as an immigrant from Mexico.

"I was growing up and went through the ESL program and it wasn't easy for me, and I see learning two languages at the same time and learning the content as well as the language at the same time is a great advantage to these students," said Maria Avalos, second grade dual language teacher.

The dual language teaching duo has to keep to a strict schedule so children are learning the same lesson even the classrooms look similar, with one obvious difference.

"Everything they see in the classroom is in English," Wendorff said about her classroom.

"They hear me speak and they see all the words on the wall, everything we have in the room is in Spanish," Avalos explained about her classroom. "Whenever I give directions, I know they understand me, but they don't have the vocabulary to answer in Spanish, so I don't hold it against them because I've been there myself."

Several studies have praised this approach to teaching.

"They actually got two different sets of vocabulary they can pull from to hook that information to and so the results are pretty dramatic," Welch said.

The program is not only teaching language, it's helping immigrants hold on to their heritage and students learn about other cultures.

"It opens their minds to different cultures, and they're just so much more welcoming," Avalos said. Dual language is growing as more parents enroll their children in the voluntary program.

"We just see that the enthusiasm and the excitement for the program continues to accelerate, and we're pleased with that and take the responsibility very seriously to do dual language the right way," Wendorff said.

A responsibility these teachers don't take lightly either.

"I will probably be in tears when I see them graduating and speaking both languages and knowing the content in both languages and just being that much brighter than most kids," Avalos said.



**The article and a 3:16 minute video clip of this story can be found at : <http://www.kolnkgin.com/grandisland/headlines/25759624.html>.**



## Program Previews—Higher Education

Nebraska Wesleyan University (NWU) has just completed its fourth summer workshops for educators who are teaching Spanish but lacking the appropriate coursework (earning graduate credit) for a Spanish K-12 endorsement. Participants from elementary parochial schools to Keya Paha County High School to Thedford and Omaha have come together in June to take courses in Spanish grammar, cultures, methods and literature. Dr. Rita Ricaurte and Marie Trayer led this endeavor.



NWU Spanish professors are looking for ways to expand this program for all Nebraska Spanish teachers next year. Please contact Rita Ricaurte at [rar@nebrwesleyan.edu](mailto:rar@nebrwesleyan.edu) to discuss ideas for future course/program offerings.

NWU has an excellent undergraduate program as well with a wealth of experiences offered both inside and outside the classroom. Students find themselves in small classes with instructors who teach using a communicative approach.

Modern language majors are required to study abroad for at least a semester. Students commonly study in Spain, Argentina, Mexico, Japan, France, Germany and Costa Rica. NWU students can also study Women Studies and Spanish in Cuernavaca, Mexico during the winter term. NWU has yearly summer study abroad programs to Querétaro, Mexico and Granada, Spain. Japanese language students frequently visit Japan for the summer. Science students often visit Central America for research purposes.

Internships, community service activities, and immersion weekends in the spring all focus students on real-world uses of the languages studied. Frequently, students work at elementary schools in Lincoln teaching Spanish after school. Recent modern language students have earned Fulbright, Rotary, and Truman scholarships which offer rich opportunities for these students in other countries.

NWU has an opportunity for high school students to earn NWU college credit by participating in a concurrent enrollment program called Honors Academy. Teachers submit applications, and, if approved, their designated high school courses are equivalent to certain courses taught at NWU. For a small fee, students pay for these college credits after completing the high school courses, getting a head start on their college career.

As you can see, NWU offers rich, varied experiences for the modern language students as well as teachers. From study abroad to community service to communication in small classes, NWU is a college with a wealth of opportunities.

*—Dr. Marie Trayer*

## Announcements (Spanish)

**What: Justo Lamas Concert**

**When: Tuesday, Oct 28th from 10-11:30 with 30 minutes more for Q & A.**

**Where: Waverly High School  
13401 Amberly Road PO Box 426  
Waverly, NE 68462.**

**Cost: \$14.00. (This is the only Eastern Nebraska concert.)  
See you there!!!**

**(For more information, please contact Pat McGill—[pmcgill@esu6.org](mailto:pmcgill@esu6.org))**





## Announcements (French)

The French Embassy has launched a national campaign for the teaching and learning of the French Language. You can find more information about the campaign at: <http://www.theworldspeaksfrench.org/>.

ALSO CHECK OUT THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS OFFERED BY THE CULTURAL SERVICES OF THE FRENCH EMBASSY IN THE UNITED STATES AT [HTTP://WWW.FRENCHCULTURE.ORG](http://www.frenchculture.org)



### 1. Teaching Assistant Program in France

A unique opportunity to spend 6 to 9 months in France while earning a salary, to master the French language through linguistic immersion and to gain valuable teaching experience!

Between 1,000 and 1,500 teaching assistant positions in French schools are offered to Americans citizens between 20 and 30 years of age to teach English conversation classes 12 hours a week.

For more information: [http://www.frenchculture.org/a\\_assistantship-program\\_195.cfm](http://www.frenchculture.org/a_assistantship-program_195.cfm)

### 2. Internship Programs in France

Experience the French way of life, culture and workplace through an internship in France!

Extraordinary internship opportunities in a wide variety of fields for 1 to 12 months, open to students enrolled in an American university.

For more information, please contact [education@consulfrance-chicago.org](mailto:education@consulfrance-chicago.org)

### 3. Grants for K-12 Teachers of French: Stages Pédagogiques de Courte Durée - SPCD Improve your language skills and enhance your knowledge of French culture through pedagogical training in France!

3-week grants in July offered by the French government to qualified K-12 teachers for an intensive study of French linguistics, the teaching of French and modern French culture through writing, theater, cinema, ... at a teacher training center in France.

For more information: <http://www.frenchculture.org/spip.php?article593>

### 4. Grants for students 18-25 years old: Youth International Meetings

*Discover the diversity of France!*

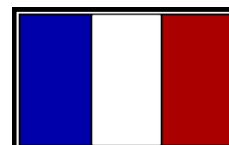
For graduate or undergraduate students who speak French and would like to discover a specific region of France and to experience a major cultural, linguistic or sports event in France (cinema, dance, discovery of a region of France, literature, media, music, photography, sciences, sports, theater, etc) for about 10 days, all expenses paid.

For more information: <http://www.frenchculture.org/spip.php?article400>

### 5. French-American Commission for Educational Exchange

The Commission provides grants to French and American students (graduate and post-graduate levels), young professionals, scholars, teachers and language teaching assistants wishing to expand their educational experience during a year in the host country.

<http://www.fulbright-france.org/> and <http://flta.fulbrightonline.org/home.html>



## Announcements (French) (con't)

### 6. Chateaubriand Fellowships – Humanities and Social Sciences

A grant offered by the Embassy of France in the United States, allowing **doctorate students enrolled in American universities** and **post-doctorates** to conduct research in France for up to 12 months and to benefit from an experience in a French University.

Chateaubriand recipients receive about 1300€/month, a round trip ticket to France, health insurance, and about 30 days of per diem for travelling in France for research purposes.

The Chateaubriand Fellowship is highly competitive and the awarding of the fellowships is very selective. *For more information:*

[http://www.france-science.org/chateaubriand\\_2005/index.htm](http://www.france-science.org/chateaubriand_2005/index.htm)

<http://www.frenchculture.org/spip.php?article405>

- \* Application submission by December 15th.
- \* Selection process from January to February
- \* Decision: during March.



### 7. Eiffel Scholarships and Eiffel PhD Scholarships

The Eiffel Excellence Program offers grants to outstanding foreign students that French higher education centers have identified as especially deserving of a place on their courses. The grants cover training in France to prepare students for taking up positions of responsibility in the public or private sector (excluding education and research). <http://www.egide.asso.fr/fr/programmes/eiffel/>

### 8. Educational and Cultural Audiovisual Resources for French Teachers

Go to [www.espacefrancophone.org](http://www.espacefrancophone.org) or [www.frenchmedia.org](http://www.frenchmedia.org) and download, free of charge, the entire contents of the programs offered by the Bureau Audiovisuel in New Orleans: teaching methods, French music videos, portraits on French civilization, shows and audio CDs on a variety of subjects,...

### 9. Cinema

The Tournées Festival, a French American Cultural Exchange (FACE) program, is designed to help bring contemporary French cinema to your college or university campus

<http://www.facecouncil.org/tournees/index.html> and <http://www.facecouncil.org>

### 10. Le Bureau du Documentaire

3000 documentary films are available for non-commercial viewing. For more information:

[http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/france-priorities\\_1/documentary\\_2312/non-commercial-distribution\\_2313/dvd-collection\\_2314/monde-question-the-world-in-questions\\_4430/africa-on-film\\_4128/summary\\_5847.html?var\\_recherche=bureau+du+documentaire](http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/france-priorities_1/documentary_2312/non-commercial-distribution_2313/dvd-collection_2314/monde-question-the-world-in-questions_4430/africa-on-film_4128/summary_5847.html?var_recherche=bureau+du+documentaire) ou

<http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr> (France-Diplomatie > France priorities > Documentary > Non-commercial distribution > Documentaries)

## Announcements (French) (con't)

### 11. Series and collections

The MAE provides more than 300 fiction titles from the classical style to the cotemporary for free screenings (festivals, universities, museums...)

[www.diplomatie.gouv.fr](http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr) ("Action de la France" – « Audiovisuel Extérieur » then "Cinéma")

### 12. Universciné

More than 100 French films with English subtitles. They can be downloaded over the Internet, for non-commercial public screenings ( the rights have been paid by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs ).

You will need : a computer , a DSL/High-Speed connection and a projector

For more information, go to [www.universcine.com](http://www.universcine.com)



### 13. Test de Connaissance de Français – TCF

\*A new tool, sanctioned by the French Ministry of Education, to assess the level of French of non-native speakers

\*Geared towards teachers, students, individuals, professionals etc.

\*The official pre-entrance test for foreign students who wish to enter a French University

For more information contact the French Consulate in your district or go to : [www.ciep.fr/tcf](http://www.ciep.fr/tcf)

### 14. Francofil—[www.diplomatie.gouv.fr](http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr) (Newsletter on the promotion of French in the world)

**Campusfrance** In order to study in France (on your own or study abroad) for more than 3 months you need to register and fill out an application at <http://usa.campusfrance.org/> in order to get your long stay visa.

### 15. Authors on Tour

With the support of the French Cultural Services, fiction and non-fiction authors from France tour the U.S. for talks, lectures and master classes. To receive a list of the Authors on Tour in the next few months, please contact: [education@consulfrance-chicago.org](mailto:education@consulfrance-chicago.org)

Free subscription to:

- France-Midwest Express: cyber bulletin of French and French-related events in the Midwest.

Liaison: cultural agenda for the Chicago area. Available at [www.consulfrance-chicago.fr](http://www.consulfrance-chicago.fr)

French Cultural Services in Chicago

205 N. Michigan Ave., Suite 3710

Chicago, IL 60601

Tel: 312.327.5230

[www.consulfrance-chicago.org](http://www.consulfrance-chicago.org)

[www.frenchculture.org](http://www.frenchculture.org)

**Cultural Attaché:** Laurent MAILLAUD

[culture@consulfrance-chicago.org](mailto:culture@consulfrance-chicago.org)

**Education Attaché:** Anne-Emmanuelle GROSSI

[education@consulfrance-chicago.org](mailto:education@consulfrance-chicago.org)

## Archdiocese of Omaha Writes Curriculum and Assessments (K-12)

Twelve World Language teachers from the Archdiocese of Omaha were selected for the Trainer of Trainers Workshop held in Columbus in June of 2008. The teachers were trained in the curriculum writing process and then worked together to design and write a first draft of the World Language curriculum framework that will be available for all 77 schools within the Archdiocese. The teachers also created and wrote several performance assessments to accompany the differing levels of instruction. The World Language framework is based on the Nebraska Foreign Language Standards and will be piloted within the archdiocese over the next two years. The performance assessments will be administered at the three levels of instruction: Emerging, Developing, and Expanding. The group was led by Lisa Nelson, Director of Standards and Assessment, and Marilyn Wiebelhaus, Director of Academic Programs, from the Catholic Schools Office. The following teachers were selected to work on the World Language Committee: Julie Burenheide, Margaret Cowell, Ann Crawford, Joan Ertz, Neah Galloway, Nancy Gillpatrick, Marlene Knobbe, Sharon Leuschen, Isela Padilla, Kathy Slaight, Joanne Sjostedt, and Jill Tomson. As trainers, these teachers will be responsible for assisting with the two-year pilot process utilizing the curriculum framework and administering assessments in their respective buildings. In addition, they may be asked to present at the annual Archdiocesan Fall Conference and/or assist other schools in the archdiocese during the implementation process.



## LinguaFolio Nebraska

In 2003, an Eisenhower Federal Grant supported a group of expert language teachers in adapting the European Language Portfolio to meet the needs of Nebraska students of world language. Five years later, one can find teachers and students in classrooms throughout the nation utilizing the on-line LinguaFolio Nebraska. This language portfolio, which began as a hard copy language journal, has evolved into a tool used to guide student learning through the writing of goals, collection of evidence, and reflection. On-line components assist teachers and students in tracking the learning process through an improved understanding of proficiency, strategies for learning, and language learning background. See the LinguaFolio NE website for the tools and guidance necessary to utilize this language classroom portfolio at <http://linguafolio.unl.edu>.

In 2003, Dr. Aleidine Moeller of UNL began a longitudinal study centered on LinguaFolio NE and its implementation throughout the state of Nebraska. Over 20 teachers and more than 1000 students across the state have participated in this research project, which focuses on student learning and the related roles of self-assessment, academic achievement, and teacher quality. Preliminary results are exciting and will be released during the 2008-2009 academic year.

—*Dr. Aleidine Moeller*, University of NE-Lincoln

—*Janine Theiler*, Lincoln Public Schools

## I-NELL Project Expands World Language Instruction

Three years ago the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE), in partnership with the University of Nebraska Lincoln (UNL), received a FLAP grant and the I-NELL Project was born. To meet the criteria for a FLAP (Foreign Language Assistance Program) Grant, applicants must 1) provide for innovative model programs to establish, improve or expand foreign language study, 2) show promise of being continued beyond the grant period, and 3) demonstrate program dissemination and duplication. The I-NELL Project has done all three. The emphasis of this project has been to extend world language instruction into the elementary school and to document data concerning world language instruction and acquisition through the UNL LinguaFolio Nebraska research.

For the past three years, elementary schools across Nebraska were given the opportunity to apply to become part of the I-NELL Project. Each year, five elementary schools were selected to implement FLES (Foreign Language in the Elementary School) Programs. The following schools are part of the I-NELL Project: Chase County, Milford, Adams Central, Arapahoe-Holbrook, Elgin-Ewing, Ashland-Greenwood, Stanton, Bennington, Dorchester, Bancroft, Lexington, Louisville, Wakefield, and Millard (Mari Sandoz and Bess Streeter Aldrich).

Staff development has been provided for the last three years to I-NELL Project schools that have emphasized teaching world languages through children's literature. Elementary teachers learned how to teach colors, numbers, animals and food through the context of children's books such as The Very Hungry Caterpillar and Brown Bear, Brown Bear, What Do You See? Teachers received additional training through the K-8 workshop and annual fall workshops that focused on best practice strategies and activities. During the 3-day immersion, elementary teachers honed their Spanish skills, which was the language chosen by all participating schools. Trainers from across the state immersed participants in Spanish with games, cooking, dancing, art, TPRS, and more.

An important outcome of the grant was the development of materials to be used to teach world languages in the context of children's literature. Each model lesson includes step-by-step lesson plans, handouts, teaching PowerPoint, and activities. Additional resources for teachers include pronunciation videos with handouts and web resource links. Brown Bear, Brown Bear also includes a workshop video demonstrating best practice strategies used in teaching languages. The model lessons are currently available in Spanish, but are adaptable to any language. Model lessons in additional languages are planned for the future. For more information, please choose "Elementary, Middle School and High School Resources" on the main page of the NDE WL website at: [www.nde.state.ne.us/forlg](http://www.nde.state.ne.us/forlg).

Interest in starting world languages in the elementary grades is increasing. In response, the Nebraska Department of Education is offering trainers to assist schools wanting to implement world languages into the elementary classroom. Please contact Vickie Scow at 402-471-4331 or [vickie.scow@nebraska.gov](mailto:vickie.scow@nebraska.gov) for additional information.

—*Pat Randolph*, FLAP Grant Professional Development Director





The Characteristics reflect the National Standards for Foreign Language Learning and focus on the five goals of Communication, Connections, Comparisons, Cultures, and Communities. The Characteristics also reflect the importance of language learning strategies, diverse learning styles, the use of authentic cultural documents, and the use of technology as an instructional tool.

1. The teacher sets high expectations for all students, designs assessment, and organizes instruction to engage and motivate all learners.
2. The teacher and students communicate purposefully in the target language as listeners, speakers, readers, writers, and viewers.
3. There is more student activity than teacher activity in most lessons. Student activity includes student to student interactions as well as teacher to student interactions. Students work independently, in pairs, and in groups. Students ask and answer questions and they create with language.
4. Students take risks as language learners because the learning environment is positive and supportive.
5. When error correction is appropriate, students are given opportunities, including wait-time, to self-correct. Teacher correction of student errors is often done through follow-up review and reteaching strategies.
6. Assessments are ongoing. Students are assessed formally and informally on how well they are able to meet the objectives of the lesson. Continuous self-assessments for students and teachers are encouraged.
7. Students use language specific learning strategies and are encouraged to assess their own progress.
8. Culture is a natural component of language use in all activities.
9. All students are guided to use all levels of thinking skills, e.g., they repeat, recognize, and recall as well as apply, create, and predict.
10. The diverse learning styles of all students are considered in the teacher's instructional planning.
11. Students have positive attitudes toward cultural diversity which are often demonstrated in the learning environment.
12. The physical environment including displays of student work is instructional, motivational, and informative.
13. Students and teachers are not text-bound during instructional time. It is obvious that the text is a tool, not the curriculum.
14. Students and teachers use a variety of print and non-print materials including authentic target language sources.
15. Technology, as appropriate and available, is used by students and teachers to facilitate learning and teaching.

(National Association of District Supervisors of Foreign Languages, November 1999)





If you have any ideas or suggestions or would like to contribute an article, program information and/or resources for the next NILA newsletter, please contact:

Marlene Knobbe

239 11th Rd

West Point, NE 68788

Phone: 402-372-3762

E-mail: [maknobbe@skywww.net](mailto:maknobbe@skywww.net)

[http://www.nde.state.ne.us/forlg/NILA/NILA\\_Main.htm](http://www.nde.state.ne.us/forlg/NILA/NILA_Main.htm)

NILA is your professional organization dedicated to the support and promotion of the teaching of languages in the state of Nebraska. Individual membership in NILA is open to any person who is interested in or who is actively engaged in the teaching of a second language at any level of education. NILA membership is also open to administrators, school counselors, retired teachers, student teachers, interns and parents.

### **NILA offers its members Professional Development & Recognition!**

- NILA Fall Conference
- Nebraska chapters of the Associations of Teachers of French, German and Spanish & Portuguese
- Summer institutes addressing curriculum, instruction, and assessment
- Mini-grants for teachers and Design contest for students
- Recognition: STAR AWARDS, Outstanding Young Educator Award, Outstanding FL Teacher in Nebraska
- An extensive website

### **NILA Executive Council**

Past President: Volker Langeheine

President: Tricia Suchsland

President Elect: Nila Jacobson

Vice-President: Marlene Knobbe

Secretary: Rebecca Gill Renken

Treasurer: Karen Robinson

#### **Fall Conference (2008)**

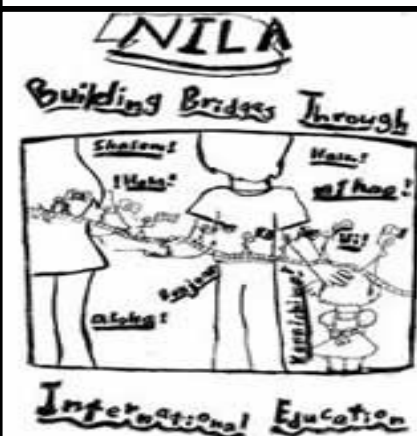
Program Chair: Wendy Brennan

Program Co-chair: Lynn Diurba

Exhibitor Chair: Steve Brock

Site Chair: Peter Reinkordt

Visions N' Views will be published twice a year:  
August and April



### **NE Department of Education**

Director: Vickie Scow

Email: [vickie.scow@nde.ne.gov](mailto:vickie.scow@nde.ne.gov)

Phone: 402-471-4331

Assistant: Mardi North

Email: [mardi.north@nde.ne.gov](mailto:mardi.north@nde.ne.gov)

Phone: 402-471-3962

Visit the Nebraska Department of Education website to stay informed of the most recent information regarding conferences and workshops. Take a few minutes to join the listserve.

[www.nde.state.ne.us/forlg](http://www.nde.state.ne.us/forlg)

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